

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

### **LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

Claims 1-14 (Canceled)

15. (Previously Amended) A drywall trim device for protecting a drywall corner joint, comprising:

a relatively rigid elongated core having a curved transverse cross-section so as to have a convex outer surface and a concave inner surface and including a pair of flanges terminating in respective longitudinal edges;

a paper cover bonded to the outer surface and extending beyond the longitudinal edges of the core to form flexible flaps having respective outward and inward surfaces;

the flaps being formed with a plurality of elongated grooves and ridges with at least the inward surfaces including the ridges, for anchoring into joint compound on the drywall corner joint, and at least the outward surfaces including the grooves; and

the flaps being further formed with spaced-apart perforations in the grooves of the outward surfaces.

16. (Previously Amended) A drywall corner protection strip device for protecting a drywall corner joint, comprising:

an elongated metal core having first and second longitudinal edges;

a paper cover bonded to the metal core and extending beyond the first and second longitudinal edges to form flexible paper flaps, each having an outwardly-facing surface and an inwardly-facing surface;

the flaps being formed on both their outwardly-facing and inwardly-facing surfaces with alternating elongated grooves and ridges to provide linear stiffness in the flaps; and

the paper flaps being further formed on their outwardly-facing surfaces with spaced-apart perforations formed along the grooves and extending through the flaps to their inwardly-facing surfaces to provide for the communication of uncured joint compound between the outwardly-facing surfaces and the inwardly-facing surfaces during the installation of the drywall corner protection strip device onto the drywall corner joint.

Claims 17-29 (Canceled)

30. (Currently Amended) A protective drywall joint strip device comprising:

an elongated rigid core of a predetermined width and terminating in opposite longitudinal edges;

a paper cover bonded to ~~said~~ the core and configured to project laterally beyond the respective ~~said~~ edges to form respective flexible flaps having an outwardly facing surface and an inwardly facing surface;

~~said the~~ flaps being formed on at least ~~one side~~ the inwardly facing surface with at least four parallel elongated grooves defining therebetween respective reinforcing ribs, ~~said the~~ grooves being spaced 1/8th of an inch apart and ~~said the~~ ribs being raised outwardly from the bottoms of the respective ~~said~~ grooves at least 1/64th of an inch; and

said flaps being further formed with respective perforations spaced equidistant along the respective ~~said grooves~~ ribs and ~~projecting~~ extending through ~~said the~~ flaps to form open flow apertures at least 1/64th of an inch in transverse cross section for flow therethrough of joint compound.

Claims 31-34 (Canceled)

35. (Previously Amended) The drywall corner protection strip of claim 16 wherein:

the paper cover is constructed of fibers and strengthening compound mixed together at the time of manufacture.

36. (Previously Amended) The drywall corner protection strip of claim 35 wherein:

the strengthening compound encapsulates the fibers.

Claims 37-40 (Canceled)

41. (Previously Amended) A tape-on drywall fitting device comprising:  
an elongated core having at least one elongated edge;  
a paper cover for covering the core and projecting laterally beyond the one edge to form an elongated paper flap having an outwardly-facing surface and an inwardly-facing surface; and  
the flap being formed on at least the inwardly-facing surface with a plurality of spaced apart ridges.

42. (Previously Presented) The device set forth in claim 41 wherein:  
the ridges are of uniform height.

43. (Previously Presented) The drywall fitting of claim 41 wherein:  
the ridges are spaced equidistant apart.

44. (Previously Amended) The device of claim 41 wherein:  
the ridges are continuous in the longitudinal direction of the flap.

45. (Previously Amended) The device of claim 41 wherein:  
the flap is formed with the ridges extending the full length thereof and is formed on its outwardly-facing surface with a plurality of grooves aligned with the ridges, and  
the respective bottoms of the grooves are formed with through openings so that compound applied to the grooves will be directed to the openings.

46. (Previously Amended) A method of making a drywall joint protection strip device for covering a joint formed between abutting drywall panels including:

selecting an elongated core having an elongated outer surface;

selecting a paper cover having a width that is greater than the width of the outer surface;

bonding the cover to the core so that it extends beyond a longitudinal edge of the outer surface to form a flexible flap having an inwardly-facing surface and an outwardly-facing surface; and

forming alternating grooves and ridges on the inwardly-facing surface of the flap to confront a surface along the marginal edge of one of the drywall panels to be embedded in joint compound disposed between the flap and the marginal edge surface.

47. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 46 that includes:

making the paper cover from fiber elements mixed with a strengthening compound at the time of manufacture.

48. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 46 that includes:

forming the outwardly-facing surface of the flaps with elongated grooves and forming through perforations in such grooves for receipt of joint compound.

Claims 49-51 (Canceled)

52. (Previously Presented) A drywall corner protection strip device for protecting a drywall corner joint formed by the abutting edges of a pair of drywall panels, comprising:

a relatively rigid core for overlying the abutting edges and the marginal edges of the panels adjacent to the abutting edges;

a relatively flexible cover strip for overlying the core and bonded thereto, the cover projecting beyond the opposite sides of the core to form respective flexible flaps formed with inner and outer sides; and

the inner sides of the flaps being formed with a plurality of alternating longitudinal flap grooves and ridges to be embedded in joint compound interposed between the inner sides and a respective corresponding portion of the exterior surfaces of the drywall panels to fill the grooves and anchor the respective flaps in the compound.

53. (Previously Presented) The drywall corner protection strip device as set forth in claim 52 wherein:

the flaps are further formed with a plurality of through perforations disposed along the length thereof and filled with the joint compound to form compound posts which cooperate with the compound ridges to mechanically resist displacement of the core.

54. (Previously Presented) The drywall corner protection strip device as set forth in claim 53 wherein:

the flaps are formed with the perforations disposed in longitudinal rows and are further formed on their respective outer sides with grooves aligned with the respective rows of perforations to cooperate in, during application of the joint compound, funneling the compound to the respective perforations.

55. (Previously Presented) The drywall corner protection strip device set forth in claim 52 wherein:

the ridges and grooves are continuous throughout the length of the flaps.